# **BANKRUPTCY COURT**

# **Bankruptcy Case Processing Measures**

The District of Idaho Bankruptcy Court has done a fantastic job in processing its caseload in an efficient and expeditious manner. This is exemplified by the fact that we routinely exceed the national average in most categories. In fact, 1998

figures reflected an improvement over 1997 figures in twelve out of fourteen categores. This outstanding achievement is directly attributable to the hard work on the part of the judges, court staff, U.S. Trustees, and panel trustees.

| Bankruptcy Proceeding Processing Measures ** |                           |                           |                          |  |  |  |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
|  | District of Idaho<br>1998 | District of Idaho<br>1997 | National Average<br>1997 |  |  |  |
| Chapter 7 Proceedings                        |                           |                           |                          |  |  |  |
| Median Disposition Time (months)             | 4.3                       | 3.9                       | 4.2                      |  |  |  |
| Pending-to Filing Ratio                      | 0.53                      | 0.70                      | 0.50                     |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 2 Years Old                 | 1.3%                      | 4.0%                      | 2.0%                     |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 4 Years Old                 | 0.3%                      | 0.7%                      | 0.40%                    |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 6 Years Old                 | 0.1%                      | 0.64%                     | 0.36%                    |  |  |  |
| Weighted Case Age Measure                    | -                         | 163                       | 100                      |  |  |  |
| Chapter 11 Proceedings                       |                           |                           |                          |  |  |  |
| Adjusted Pending-to-Filing Ratio             | 2.09                      | 2.82                      | 3.14                     |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 2 Years Old                 | 20.0%                     | 25.7%                     | 27.5%                    |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 4 Years Old                 | 7.0%                      | 10.5%                     | 13.7%                    |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 6 Years Old                 | 0.3%                      | 1.1%                      | 3.7%                     |  |  |  |
| Weighted Case Age Measure                    | -                         | 75                        | 100                      |  |  |  |
| Chapter 13 Proceedings                       |                           |                           |                          |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 6 Years Old                 | 0.3%                      | 0.6%                      | 0.6%                     |  |  |  |
| Adversary Proceedings                        |                           |                           |                          |  |  |  |
| Pending-to Filing Ratio                      | 0.53                      | 0.66                      | 1.06                     |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 1 Year Old                  | 12.9%                     | 8.3%                      | 13.4%                    |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 2 Years Old                 | 2.6%                      | 3.9%                      | 6.6%                     |  |  |  |
| Percent Reaching 3 Years Old                 | 0.2%                      | 0.3%                      | 3.5%                     |  |  |  |
| Weighted Case Age Measure                    | -                         | 45                        | 100                      |  |  |  |

<sup>\* 1998</sup> National averages were not yet available at time of printing.

# **Bankruptcy Workload**

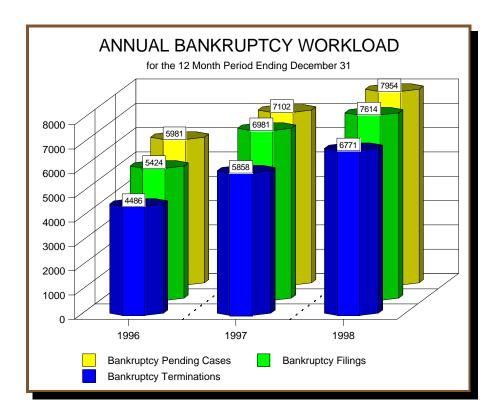
Bankruptcy filings increased by 9% during 1998 on top of a 29% increase the year before.

Bankruptcy terminations rose by 16%, while pending bankruptcy proceedings went up 12%.

| Bankruptcy Proceedings For the 12 Month Period Ending December 31 |       |     |       |     |       |  |  |  |
|---|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|--|--|--|
| 1996 % Change 1997 % Change 1998                                  |       |     |       |     |       |  |  |  |
| Filings *   | 5,421 | 29% | 6,977 | 9%  | 7,608 |  |  |  |
| Oregon Referrals ♣  | 3     | 33% | 4     | 50% | 6     |  |  |  |
| Total Filings   | 5,424 | 29% | 6,981 | 9%  | 7,614 |  |  |  |
| Terminations **   | 4,486 | 31% | 5,858 | 16% | 6,771 |  |  |  |
| Pending Proceedings <b>◆</b>                                      |       |     |       |     |       |  |  |  |

<sup>\*</sup> Includes re-openings

♣ Malheur County, Oregon proceedings are filed in Portland and referred to the District of Idaho for administration. Upon closure of the file, it is returned to Oregon. In 1968, the United States Judicial Conference established concurrent jurisdiction for the District of Idaho with Malheur County in the District of Oregon.



<sup>\*\*</sup> Includes Oregon closings

<sup>♠</sup> Includes Oregon Proceedings

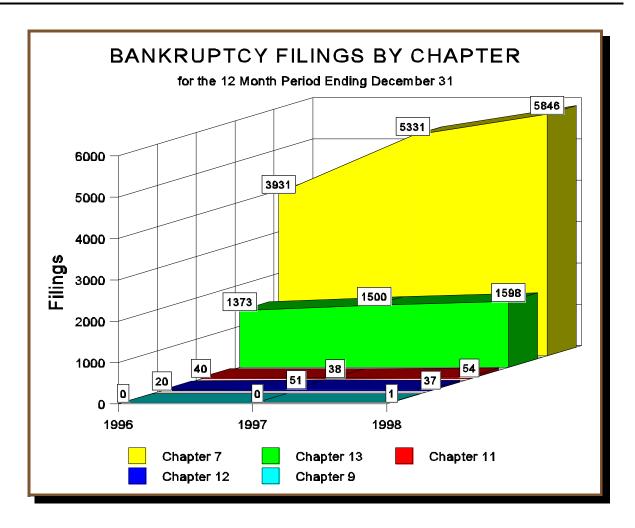
# **Bankruptcy Filings by Chapter**

Bankruptcy Chapter 7s, which represent the largest volume of bankruptcy proceedings, rose 10% during 1998. Chapter 13s increased 7%, Chapter 11s went up 42%, while Chapter 12s declined by 27%. The lone Chapter 9 filing was the first ever.

| Bankruptcy Filings by Chapter For the 12 Month Period Ending December 31 |       |          |       |          |       |  |  |
|--|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|--|--|
|  | 1996  | % Change | 1997  | % Change | 1998  |  |  |
| Chapter 7  | 3,931 | 36%      | 5,331 | 10%      | 5,846 |  |  |
| Chapter 9  | 0     | 1        | 0     | -        | 1     |  |  |
| Chapter 11   | 40    | -5%      | 38    | 42%      | 54    |  |  |
| Chapter 12   | 20    | 155%     | 51    | -27%     | 37    |  |  |
| Chapter 13   | 1,373 | 9%       | 1,500 | 7%       | 1,598 |  |  |
| Sub-Total  | 5,364 | 29%      | 6,920 | 9%       | 7,536 |  |  |
| Reopenings   | 57    | 0%       | 57    | 26%      | 72    |  |  |
| Oregon Referrals   | 3     | 33%      | 4     | 50%      | 6     |  |  |
| Total  | 5,424 | 29%      | 6,981 | 9%       | 7,614 |  |  |

| Oregon Bankruptcy Referrals by Chapter For the 12 Month Period Ending December 31, 1998 |   |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Chapter 7   | 6 |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 11  | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 12  | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 13  | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Total   | 6 |  |  |  |  |

| Bankruptcy Reopenings by<br>Chapter<br>For the 12 Month Period<br>Ending December 31, 1998 |    |  |  |  |  |
|--|----|--|--|--|--|
| Chapter 7  | 65 |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 11   | 0  |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 12   | 1  |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 13   | 6  |  |  |  |  |
| Total 72   |    |  |  |  |  |



## **Bankruptcy Filings by Chapter and Location**

The number of bankruptcy filings increased at every divisional office. While bankruptcy filings rose by only 3% in Boise, the filings in all divisional offices were up "double digits." Coeur d'Alene bankruptcy filings increased 15%. Pocatello experienced a 13% increase in bankruptcy filings, while Moscow went up 14%.

Chapter 7s, which comprise the largest category of bankruptcy filings, increased by 1% in Boise, 21% in Coeur d'Alene, 13% in Pocatello,

17% in Twin Falls, and 19% in Moscow. Chapter 13s, which constitute the second largest category in this District, increased by 9% in Boise, 11% in Pocatello, and 17% in Twin Falls. Coeur d'Alene Chapter 13 filings declined by 14% and Moscow declined by 3%. Since there are relatively few Chapter 11 and Chapter 12 bankruptcy filings in Idaho, any change whatsoever results in wild swings in percentages.

| Bankruptcy Filings by Chapter and Location For the 12 Month Period Ending December 31 |        |           |        |               |            |       |
|---|--------|-----------|--------|---------------|------------|-------|
|   | Boise  | Pocatello | Moscow | Coeur d'Alene | Twin Falls | Total |
| Chapter 7   |        |           |        |               |            |       |
| 1996  | 1,856  | 745       | 249    | 601           | 480        | 3,931 |
| % Change  | 28%    | 50%       | 44%    | 43%           | 28%        | 36%   |
| 1997  | 2,378  | 1,120     | 358    | 859           | 616        | 5,331 |
| % Change  | 1%     | 13%       | 19%    | 21%           | 17%        | 10%   |
| 1998  | 2,396  | 1,269     | 426    | 1,037         | 718        | 5,846 |
| Chapter 11  |        |           |        |               |            |       |
| 1996  | 15     | 6         | 2      | 7             | 10         | 40    |
| % Change  | -47%   | 33%       | -100%  | 100%          | -20%       | -5%   |
| 1997  | 8      | 8         | 0      | 14            | 8          | 38    |
| % Change  | 50%    | 88%       | -      | -14%          | 50%        | 42%   |
| 1998  | 12     | 15        | 3      | 12            | 12         | 54    |
| Chapter 12  |        |           |        |               |            |       |
| 1996  | 6      | 5         | 2      | 1             | 6          | 20    |
| % Change  | 167%   | 340%      | -100%  | 0%            | 100%       | 155%  |
| 1997  | 16     | 22        | 0      | 1             | 12         | 51    |
| % Change  | -56%   | -27%      | -      | 100%          | 0%         | -27%  |
| 1998  | 7      | 16        | 0      | 2             | 12         | 37    |
| Chapter 13  |        |           |        |               |            |       |
| 1996  | 883    | 171       | 82     | 173           | 64         | 1,373 |
| % Change  | 6%     | 29%       | 60%    | -16%          | 11%        | 9%    |
| 1997  | 932    | 220       | 131    | 146           | 71         | 1,500 |
| % Change  | 9%     | 11%       | -3%    | -14%          | 17%        | 7%    |
| 1998  | 1,019  | 244       | 127    | 125           | 83         | 1,598 |
| Total   |        |           |        |               |            |       |
| 1996  | 2,760  | 927       | 335    | 782           | 560        | 5,364 |
| % Change  | 21%    | 48%       | 46%    | 30%           | 26%        | 29%   |
| 1997  | 3,334  | 1,370     | 489    | 1,020         | 707        | 6,920 |
| % Change  | 3%     | 13%       | 14%    | 15%           | 17%        | 9%    |
| 1998  | 3,435* | 1,544     | 556    | 1,176         | 825        | 7,536 |

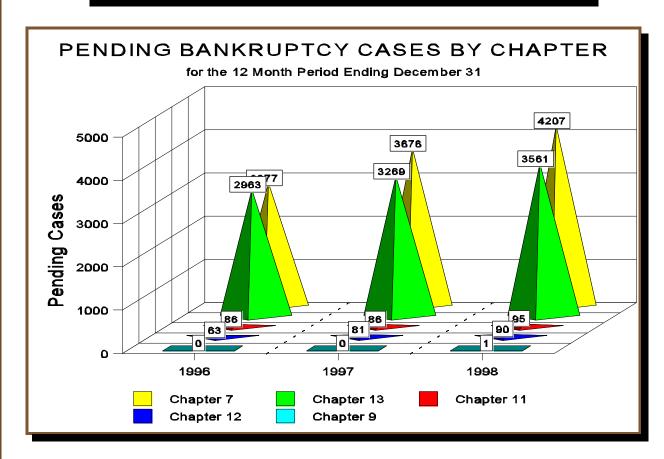
<sup>\*</sup> Includes one Chapter 9 filing in Boise.

### **Pending Bankruptcy Proceedings by Chapter**

Overall, the number of pending Bankruptcy proceedings increased by 12% in 1998 due primarily to the 14% rise in pending Chapter 7

matters. Pending Chapter 13s went up by 9%, pending Chapter 12s increased by 11%, while pending Chapter 11s rose by 10%.

| Pending Bankruptcy Proceedings by Chapter For the 12 Month Period Ending December 31 |       |          |       |          |       |  |  |
|--|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|--|--|
|  | 1996  | % Change | 1997  | % Change | 1998  |  |  |
| Chapter 7  | 2,877 | 28%      | 3,676 | 14%      | 4,207 |  |  |
| Chapter 9  | 0     | -        | 0     | -        | 1     |  |  |
| Chapter 11   | 86    | 0%       | 86    | 10%      | 95    |  |  |
| Chapter 12   | 63    | 29%      | 81    | 11%      | 90    |  |  |
| Chapter 13   | 2,963 | 10%      | 3,269 | 9%       | 3,561 |  |  |
| Total  | 5,989 | 19%      | 7,112 | 12%      | 7,954 |  |  |



### **Adversary Bankruptcy Proceedings**

During 1998, adversary bankruptcy proceedings filings decreased by 10%. Pending

adversary proceedings declined by 30% while adversary terminations increased by 18%.

| Bankruptcy Adversary Proceedings<br>For the 12 Month Period Ending December 31 |      |          |      |          |      |  |  |
|--|------|----------|------|----------|------|--|--|
|  | 1996 | % Change | 1997 | % Change | 1998 |  |  |
| Filings  | 264  | 53%      | 404  | -10%     | 363  |  |  |
| Terminations   | 360  | -8%      | 333  | 18%      | 394  |  |  |
| Pending<br>Proceedings   | 175  | 53%      | 267  | -30%     | 186  |  |  |

## **Bankruptcy Hearings in Divisional Offices**

Bankruptcy court hearing hours increased by 7% during 1998. The most significant increases occurred in Pocatello, up 37%, and Twin Falls, up 48%. Conversely, bankruptcy hearing hours in Boise declined by 3%, while Moscow dropped by 24% and Couer d'Alene remained virtually unchanged.

| Bankruptcy Court Hours by Hearing Location For the 12 Month Period Ending December 31 |      |          |      |          |      |  |
|---|------|----------|------|----------|------|--|
| Location  | 1996 | % Change | 1997 | % Change | 1998 |  |
| Boise   | 292  | -3%      | 283  | -3%      | 275  |  |
| Twin Falls  | 27   | -22%     | 21   | 48%      | 31   |  |
| Pocatello   | 204  | -27%     | 148  | 37%      | 203  |  |
| Moscow  | 57   | 11%      | 63   | -24%     | 48   |  |
| Coeur d'Alene   | 117  | -16%     | 98   | -1%      | 97   |  |
| Total *   | 697  | -12%     | 613  | 7%       | 654  |  |

<sup>\*</sup> Judge Pappas also conducted telephone hearings on 150 California bankruptcy proceedings during 1997 and logged approximately 35 hours in San Diego during 1998.

#### **District of Idaho**

